

Jim von Gremp
Chairman
(501) 682-1455

Sam I. Bratton, Jr.
Commissioner
(501) 682-1453

Betty C. Dickey
Commissioner
(501) 682-1451

**ARKANSAS
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

1000 Center
P.O. Box 400
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0400
Fax (501) 682-5731



June 21, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Salas:

Re: CC Docket No. 96-98 and NSD File No. 98-121 (FCC 99-54), Order released March 23, 1999; IntraLATA Toll Dialing Parity Plans for Local Exchange Carriers in the State of Arkansas

Attached hereto as Attachment A is a copy of the Arkansas Public Service Commission's Order on the intraLATA toll dialing parity plans filed by the local exchange carriers (LECs) listed therein. In order not to impose a requirement which is unduly burdensome and technically infeasible pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §251(f)(2), the APSC suspended intraLATA toll dialing parity implementation for the following small LECs: Madison County Telephone Company, Inc.; Scott County Telephone Company, Inc.; Tri-County Telephone Company; E. Ritter Telephone Company; and Rice Belt Telephone Company. The APSC established a procedural schedule for review of the intraLATA toll dialing parity plans filed by the five small LECs listed hereinabove. Under the plans proposed by these small LECs, intraLATA toll dialing parity will be available in all of their service areas no later than December 1, 1999.

Attached hereto as Attachment B is a list of LECs certificated in Arkansas that have not submitted intraLATA toll dialing parity plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim von Gremp".

Jim von Gremp, Chairman

Attachments

No. of Copies rec'd. 
List ABCDE

JUN 21 12 25 PM '99

ARKANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FILED

IN THE MATTER OF THE INTRALATA TOLL)
 DIALING PARITY PLANS OF THE LOCAL)
 EXCHANGE CARRIERS)

DOCKET NO. 99-077-U
 ORDER NO. 5

ORDER

On March 23, 1999, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its Order in CC Docket No. 96-98 and NSD File No. 98-121 extending its previously established deadlines for implementing intrastate intraLATA toll dialing parity. With that Order, the FCC directed that all local exchange carriers (LECs) must file intraLATA toll dialing parity implementation plans with the state regulatory commission for each state in which the LEC provides telecommunications service, if a plan has not already been filed with such state commission, no later than April 22, 1999. Upon approval by the applicable state commission, the LEC must implement its plan no later than 30 days after the date the plan is approved.

On April 20, 1999, intraLATA toll dialing parity plans were filed by Cleveland County Telephone Company, Decatur Telephone Company, Lavaca Telephone Company d/b/a Pinnacle Communications, Mountain View Telephone Company, Prairie Grove Telephone Company, South Arkansas Telephone Company and Yell County Telephone Company. On April 21, 1999, Arkansas Telephone Company and Yelcot Telephone Company filed intraLATA toll dialing parity plans, and Yell County Telephone Company filed an amendment to its previously submitted plan. On April 22, 1999, intraLATA toll dialing parity plans were filed by ACSI Local Switched Services, Inc. d/b/a e.spire, ALLTEL Arkansas, Inc., ALLTEL Communications, Inc., AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc., Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Centurytel of Arkansas, Inc., Centurytel

of Mountain Home, Inc., Centurytel of Redfield, Inc., Centurytel of South Arkansas, Inc., Magazine Telephone Company, Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Teligent, Inc. and Walnut Hill Telephone Company.

On April 22, 1999, Centurytel of Northwest Louisiana, Inc., which serves a number of Arkansas customers from its Springhill, Louisiana, exchange, filed a letter stating that the Springhill exchange would convert to intraLATA dialing parity pursuant to its plan filed with the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

On May 5, 1999, Northern Arkansas Telephone Company filed an amendment to its previously submitted intraLATA toll dialing parity plan. On May 10, 1999, Hyperion Telecommunications, Inc. filed an intraLATA toll dialing parity plan on behalf of its subsidiary Hyperion Communications of Arkansas, LLC and its affiliate Entergy Hyperion Telecommunications of Arkansas, LLC. On May 10, 1999, Teligent, Inc. and Lavaca Telephone Company d/b/a Pinnacle Communications filed revised intraLATA toll dialing parity plans. On May 11, 1999, ACSI Local Switched Services, Inc. d/b/a e.spire revised its intraLATA toll dialing parity plan.

On May 12, 1999, the General Staff of the Arkansas Public Service Commission (Staff) filed initial comments indicating that it had reviewed the intraLATA toll dialing parity plans submitted on April 20, 21 and 22, 1999, for compliance with the FCC's dialing parity rules, which are set out at 47 C.F.R. §§51.205 through 51.215. The specific requirements for the implementation of intraLATA toll dialing parity plans are found at 47 C.F.R. §51.213. Based upon its review, Staff concluded that the intraLATA toll dialing parity plans, as amended, submitted by the following LECs appear to satisfy the requirements of 47 U.S.C. §§51.205 through 51.215: ACSI Local

Switched Services, Inc. d/b/a e.spire; AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc.; Cleveland County Telephone Company; Decatur Telephone Company; Hyperion Telecommunications, Inc. filed on behalf of Hyperion Communications of Arkansas, LLC and Entergy Hyperion Telecommunications of Arkansas, LLC; Lavaca Telephone Company d/b/a Pinnacle Communications; Southwestern Bell Telephone Company; Teligent, Inc.; and Yelcot Telephone Company.

Staff's initial comments of May 12, 1999, also noted that GTE Arkansas Incorporated, GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Southwest Incorporated previously initiated intraLATA toll dialing parity on August 8, 1996, pursuant to plans approved by Order No. 264 of APSC Docket No. 86-160-U and the Missouri Public Service Commission.

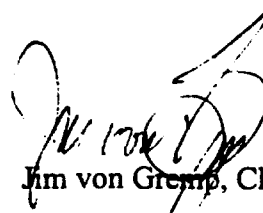
On May 25, 1999, Staff filed further initial comments, stating that, based upon its review, the intraLATA toll dialing parity plans, as amended, submitted by the following LECs appear to satisfy the requirements of 47 U.S.C. §§51.205 through 51.215: ALLTEL Arkansas, Inc.; ALLTEL Communications, Inc.; Arkansas Telephone Company; Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative; Centurytel of Arkansas, Inc.; Centurytel of Mountain Home, Inc.; Centurytel of Redfield, Inc.; Centurytel of South Arkansas, Inc.; Magazine Telephone Company; Mountain View Telephone Company; Northern Arkansas Telephone Company; Prairie Grove Telephone Company; South Arkansas Telephone Company; Southwest Arkansas Cooperative; Walnut Hill Telephone Company; and Yell County Telephone Company.

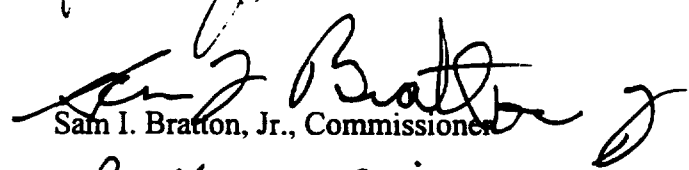
Based on the recommendations of Staff and the intraLATA toll dialing parity plans submitted by the above-named LECs, the Commission finds that the intraLATA toll dialing parity plans submitted by ACSI Local Switched Services, Inc. d/b/a e.spire, ALLTEL Arkansas, Inc., ALLTEL Communications, Inc., Arkansas Telephone Company, AT&T Communications of the Southwest,


Inc., Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Centurytel of Arkansas, Inc., Centurytel of Mountain Home, Inc., Centurytel of Redfield, Inc., Centurytel of South Arkansas, Inc., Cleveland County Telephone Company, Decatur Telephone Company, Hyperion Telecommunications, Inc. filed on behalf of Hyperion Communications of Arkansas, LLC and Entergy Hyperion Telecommunications of Arkansas, LLC, Lavaca Telephone Company d/b/a Pinnacle Communications, Magazine Telephone Company, Mountain View Telephone Company, Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Prairie Grove Telephone Company, South Arkansas Telephone Company, Southwest Arkansas Cooperative, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Teligent, Inc., Walnut Hill Telephone Company, Yelcot Telephone Company and Yell County Telephone Company appear to comply with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. §§51.205 through 51.215.

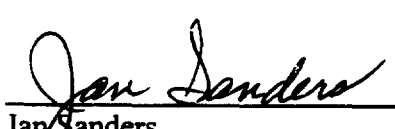
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This 21st day of June, 1999.


Jim von Grop, Chairman


Sam I. Bratton, Jr., Commissioner


Betty C. Dickey, Commissioner


Jan Sanders
Secretary of the Commission

ATTACHMENT B

The following LECs have been granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CCN), but have not submitted an intraLATA toll dialing parity plan: 1-800-Reconnex, Inc.; Arkansas State Telephone; BarTel Communications, Inc.; Basicphone, Inc.; Brooks Fiber Communications of Arkansas, Inc.; Business Telecom, Inc. dba BTI; Buy-Tel Communicatins, Inc.; CapRock Communications Corporation; Choctaw Communications, L.C. dba Smoke Signal Communications; Comm South Companies, Inc. d.b.a. Arkansas Comm South, Inc.; Connect Communications Corporation; Digital Teleport, Inc.; DMJ Communications, Inc.; DPI-Teleconnect, Inc.; EZ Phone, Inc.; EZ Talk Communications, L.L.C.; Frontier Telemanagement, Inc.; Go-Tel, Inc.; GTE Communications Corporation; HomeTel, Inc.; *Intermedia Communications, Inc.; ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc. d.b.a. ITC^DeltaCom; Jerry LaQuiere d.b.a. LEC-Link; *Larry J. Baldwin d.b.a. NEA Telecom; Logix Communications Corporation; Max-Tel Communications, Inc.; Navigator Telecommunications, L.L.C.; NET-tel Corporation; NOW Communications, Inc.; Omniplex Communications Group, L.L.C.; On-Call Communications Corporation; Payroll Advance, Inc.; Preferred Carrier Services, Inc.; Quintelco, Inc.; State Discount Telephone; TCA Communications, Inc.; TEL-LINK, L.L.C.; Tel-Save, Inc.; Tel-South Communications, Inc.; Tin Can Communications Company, L.L.C.; TranStar Communications, LC; USLD Communications, Inc.; U.S. Telco, Inc.; US West Interprise America, Inc.; WinStar Wireless, Inc.

*Filed letter stating that LEC not doing business in Arkansas at this time.